(b) whether as per the report the Dalit students were served last, they must use separate plates and cannot occupy front benches;

(c) whether the Dalit boys hold out their hands for bread tossed to them and they are not allowed metal plates which are reserved only for upper-caste students and they must use plates made of leaves;

(d) if so, Government's reaction to the above survey report; and

(e) the corrective/punitive steps taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (e) Findings of an NGO, Jansahas, in this regard, were published in the media, in May, 2009. The matter was taken up with Government of Madhya Pradesh. The State Government has reported that they have inquired into it and statements made in the report of the NGO are not based on the ground reality. Senior State Government officials had also visited three villages and did not find any discrimination against these children at schools and in Anganwadi Centres.

Preparations and hotels for tourists for Commonwealth Games

†2210. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a mega event, the 2010 Commonwealth Games are about to be organized in our country in which thousands of foreign players and tourists would be visiting our country;

(b) if so, the preparations made by Government for boarding and lodging, etc. of such a large number of foreign tourists visiting India, and the total amount of money likely to be spent thereon;

(c) since the event is to be organized in Delhi, the capital of the country, the works being done for the beautification of Delhi; and

(d) keeping in view the facilities for the tourists, the number of low budget/medium budget/five-star hotels proposed to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Ministry of Tourism has assessed that approx. 40,000 rooms under various categories in the Delhi National Capital Region (NCR) would be required to meet the demand of the Commonwealth Games, 2010.

Construction of hotels is primarily a private sector activity and highly capital intensive with a long gestation period. In order to address the shortage of hotel rooms in Delhi NCR for the Games, projects are being implemented by various agencies in NCT of Delhi and States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. These projects are being monitored by the concerned land owning agencies and are also reviewed regularly by the Ministry of Tourism through the 'Task Force' set up for this purpose.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.